

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

Replace the abstract originally provided on the cover sheet of the PCT application with the new abstract as follows. A new abstract numbered page 55 is enclosed for the last page of the application following the claims.

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

An integrated optical device having a first and a second integrated waveguide; a section of the first waveguide and a section of the second waveguide arranged so as to be in optical coupling relationship. A first and a second modulated refractive index structures are respectively formed along the first waveguide section and the second waveguide section. Each modulated refractive index structure has at least one pair of regions of mutually different refractive index, adjacent to each other along the respective waveguide section. The regions of mutually different refractive index have a portion of the respective waveguide section and a gap formed in the waveguide section. The refractive indexes of the regions differ from each other by least approximately 1.5%. The device can be used for optical multiplexers/demultiplexers, particularly for wavelength division multiplexing optical communications.